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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION In cooperation with the INFORMATION BRANCH 30 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

Federal-State Market News Service

## WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended July 1, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 28 --- Best Buys of the week in the wholesale fruit market are boysenberries, loganberries, youngberries, currants, and figs.

Next in line as a Good Buy are cantaloups, followed by raspberries as a Fairly Good Buy.

Fair Buys this week include: apricots (slightly higher), nectarines (lower), peaches, and watermelons (slightly higher).

Best Buys from which to choose among the vegetables are carrots, corn, and lettuce.

Celery is a Good Buy along with cucumbers, onions, and potatoes. Among the Fairly Good Buys are more plentiful supplies of snap beans, cabbage, and soft squash.

Fair Buys of the week are: peas, peppers (lower), and tomatoes (considerably higher).

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Supplies of livestock have been fairly liberal in the San Francisco wholesale market the past week, but there has been less demand for meat. Good and Commercial grades of beef carcasses have dropped 1-cent per hundredweight. In beef cuts, Good hindquarters have advanced 1-cent per hundredweight, while rounds and ribs have dropped 2 cents per hundredweight. Fresh veal and calf have held unchanged in price, despite a light supply of Choice grade. Good and Choice grades of lamb have been in fairly good demand, but Commercial and Utility grades have been burdensome.

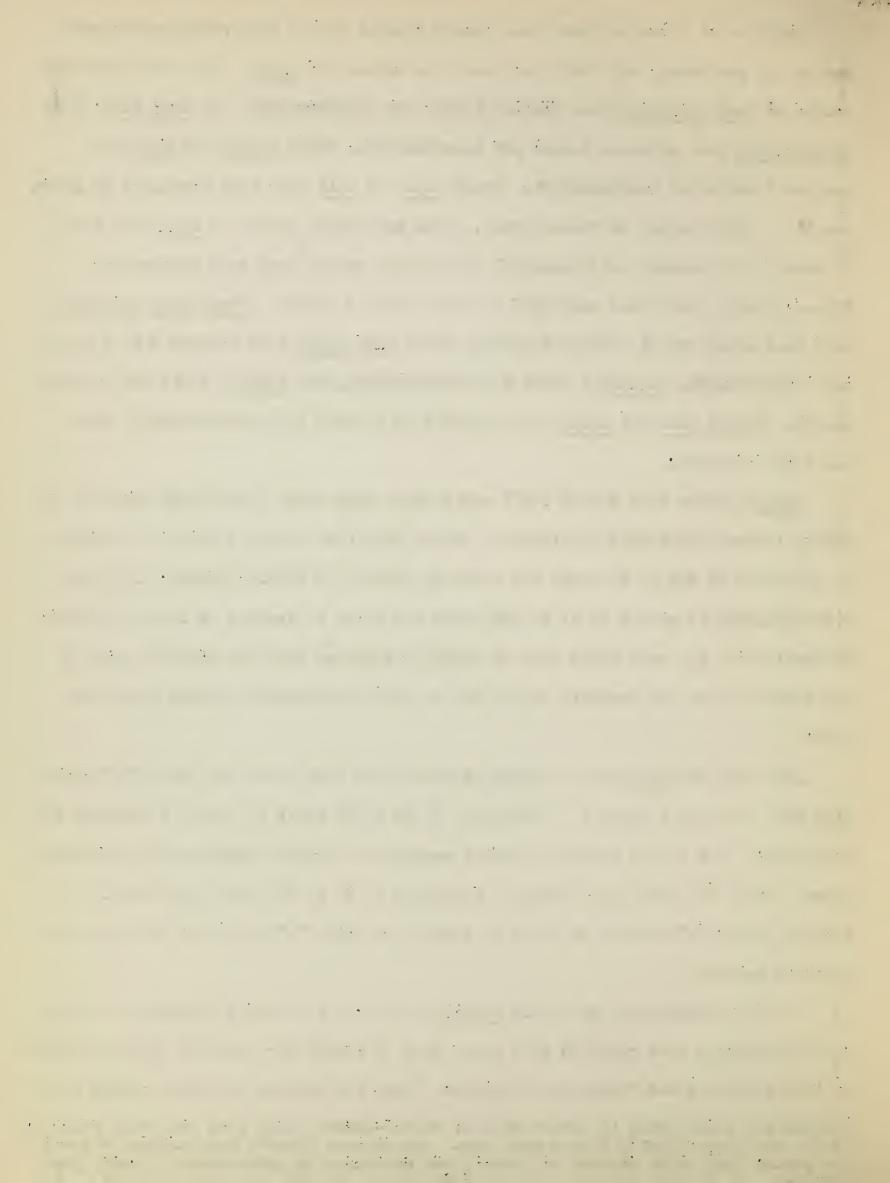
Prices, though, have held unchanged on both lamb and mutton. Fresh pork carcasses have held their own at unchanged prices, while pork loins have dropped 2 to 4 cents per hundredweight, picnics 3 cents per hundredweight, and butts 2 cents per hundredweight. Smoked hams and bacon have gained 1 to 2 cents per hundredweight. Lard has held unchanged.

Butter prices have gained 1-1/2 cents since last week, even though supplies are fairly liberal and demand is limited. Grades A&AA (1st Quality) butter are quoted to retailers at  $64\frac{1}{2}$  to 67 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-1b. prints, and Grade B(2nd Quality) is quoted at 61 to  $63\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-1b. prints. Production for the week ended June 23 showed a decrease from the previous week in the Pacific Coast and Mountain states but is still considerably larger than last year.

All Grade "A" oggs are unchanged in price from last week, but Grade "AA" Large eggs have advanced 2 cents to a quotation of 64 to 65 cents per dozen in cartons to retailers. This is the result of warmer weather and lighter supplies from producing areas. Grade "A" Large are quoted to retailers at 57 to 58 cents per dozen in cartons, Grado "A" Mediums at 52 to 53 cents, and Grade "A" Smalls at 39 cents per dozen in cartons.

In the San Francisco wholesale poultry market, more liberal supplies of young colored chickens have resulted in a price drop of 1-cent per pound on dressed weights of both young colored fryers and roasters. Young tom turkeys are also selling 1 to

<sup>2</sup> cents per pound lower as inventories of winter-packed young toms are being reduced. Squabs are down slightly from a week ago. And dressed rabbits have dropped 3 cents per pound. All other classes of poultry are unchanged in price under a fairly good demand.



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## WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

("SDA Food Bulletin for the week ended July 8, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, July 5 --- "Best Buys" have faded from the wholesale fruit market picture this week, but currants and nectarines can be considered as Good Buys.

Classed as Fairly Good Buys are loganberries, cantaloups (slightly lower), figs, and plumse

Although apricots are in lighter supply and higher priced, they are a Fair Buy, along with boysenberries, youngberries, Persian melons, peaches in greater variety, and watermelons.

Best Buys of the week among the vegetables are: Carrots, celery, corn, and lettuce.

Good Buys includes Cabbage, onions, peas, potatoes, soft squash, and tomatoes (lower).

Snap beans are a Fairly Good Buy, as are cucumbers and eggplant. Poppers are a Fair Buy.



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Pre-holiday trading was rather quiet in the San Francisco wholesale meat market. Last mimite calls for fresh pork items caused a flurry. Otherwise, trading was below last year's level. An active demand for boiled, boned and canned ham left the market dull on smoked ham. Fresh pork loins, picnics, and butts ranged \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight higher, but all cured pork outs held unchanged. Prices held unchanged on beef under a fairly good demand, while fresh voal and calf dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight. With demand somewhat uneven for spring lamb, prices sagged \$1.00 per hundredweight on Good grade and \$3.00 to \$4.00 on utility grade.

Butter production continued on the downgrade, with warm weather in producing areas a contributing factor. As a result, supplies of top grades are lighter in the San Francisco wholesale market. Trices are 1/2-cent to 1-cent higher than last week on Grades A&AA, with quotations to retailers at 65-1/2 to 67-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) is quoted unchanged to retailers at 61-1/2 to 62-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

A good demand for lighter supplies of Grade "A" Large and Medium eggs has upped the price 2 cents per dozen on those classes, while Grade "A" Small eggs are in liberal supply at unchanged prices. Grade "A" Large are quoted to retailers at 59 to 60 cents per dozen in cartons; Grade "A" Mediums at 54 to 55 cents per dozen in cartons. Grade "A" Smalls are unchanged at 39 cents per dozen in cartons.

Holiday demand for dressed poultry was below expectations. This, coupled with larger offerings, has resulted in a downward price trend. Broilers and small fryers are down 2 to 3 cents per pound from last week; large fryers are 3 to 4 cents per pound lower; colored reasters are 2 cents below last week; and colored hens are down 1-cent per pound. Squabs are down 5 cents per pound. And young tom turkeys are 1-cent per pound lower.

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30 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

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### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended July 15, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, July 12--- Apricots have dropped in price to become the week's Best Buy in fruits. Now's the time to can a supply for future use.

There are a half-dozen Good Buys this week, including blackberries, cantaloups, peaches (lower), watermelons, currants, and nectarines.

Gravenstein apples are now coming to market and can be considered a Fair Buy, along with figs.

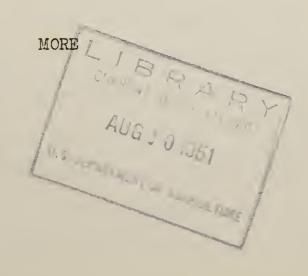
Bartlett pears have also arrived on the market this week -- at high prices.

Best Buys from the vegetable bin are celery, corn, and eggplant.

Good Buys of the week include carrots (slightly higher), cabbage,

cucumbers, lettuce (slightly higher), onions, potatoes, and soft squash.

Snap beans, peppers, and tomatoes are Fair Buys.



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During last week's short trading period, there was a surprising stimulation in demand for beef in the San Francisco wholesale meat market. Good steer beef sold around \$1.00 higher per hundredweight, but approximately three-fourths of the supply of beef was of Commercial and lower grades. A good demand for pork cuts kept the light offerings well sold up at mostly unchanged prices, while spring lamb dropped \$1.00 per hundredweight under an uneven demand. Most of the supply of fresh veal and calf consisted of Commercial and Good grades, which were in good demand at unchanged prices. Hams, bacon and lard all held unchanged in price from the previous week.

As <u>butter</u> production for the nation and the west continues on the downgrade, prices tend to go higher. For the week ended July 7, national butter production dropped 4 percent below the previous week. In the west, the decline amounted to 2 percent. In the San Francisco wholesale market, prices are 1 to 1-1/2 cents higher than a week ago. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) are quoted to retailers at 66-1/2 to 68-1/2 cents per pound in cartons to retailers. And Grade B (2nd Quality) is quoted at 62-1/2 to 64 cents per pound in cartons to retailers.

Egg prices have also moved up from last week as the result of a good demand for lighter supplies. Grade "A" Large and Smalls are up 2 cents per dozen, and Grade "A" Mediums are 4 cents higher. Quotations in the wholesale market are: Grade "A" Large 62 cents per dozen in cartons to retailers; Grade "A" Mediums 59 cents; and Grade "A" Smalls 41 cents.

Demand has continued good in the wholesale poultry market. Lighter supplies of Leghorn broilers have advanced 1 to 3 cents per pound on dressed weights, while larger supplies of colored fryers and reasters have resulted in a price drop of 1-cent per pound on dressed colored roasters. Prices have held unchanged from a week ago on liberal supplies of Leghorn hens -- especially small sizes. Moderate supplies of young hen turkeys have also held unchanged in price, but dressed young tom turkeys have dropped 3 to 4 cents per pound. All other classes are unchanged from a week ago.

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30 Van Ness Avenue
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#### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended July 22, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, July 19--- Peaches in variety -- Hales Early, Foster, Elberta, Babcock, Golden Jubilee, Rochester, St. John -- are tops this week as a Best Buy.

Among the Good Buys are apricots (it's about the last call for canning), blackberries, and cantaloups.

Apples -- mostly Gravensteins -- are a Fair Buy, along with plums and watermelons (higher).

More and more grapes are coming to market, but prices are still high.

There's a new variety in the market this year known as the "Cardinal," which

has the shape of a Ribier, and a red color similar to the Red Malaga, and flavor

that hints of the Muscat.

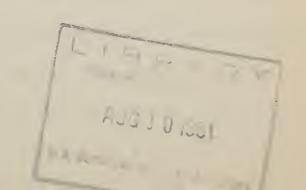
Bartlett pears are more plentiful and slightly lower priced.

Looking in the vegetable bin, we find that snap beans, celery, corn (shade higher priced), cucumbers, eggplant, and soft squash are the Best Buys.

Good Buys include carrots, cabbage, lettuce, onions, and potatoes.

Peppers are a Fairly Good Buy at slightly lower prices.

Peas and tomatoes are a Fair Buy.



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Last week's slaughter in the San Francisco wholesale meat market was made up of around 10 percent more cattle and calves and about the same amount of lambs as for the previous week. But the volume of hogs slaughtered was considerably less, since hogs are in seasonally light supply at this time. In the beef division, there was a dearth of top grades, with about 80 percent of the week's supply consisting of Commercial and lesser grades. Prices, however, held mostly unchanged. Most veal carcasses sold \$2.00 per hundredweight higher. And the advance in the price of live hogs was reflected in a price increase of \$2.00 to \$4.00 per hundredweight on practically all fresh pork cuts. Generally speaking, demand ranged from fair to good, but lamb was in slow demand. As a result, prices dropped \$2.00 to \$3.00 per hundredweight below the previous week on both spring lamb and mutton.

Butter prices are little changed from a week ago. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) are down 1-cent to a quotation of  $65\frac{1}{2}$  to  $67\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound in cartons to retailers. Grade B(2nd Quality) is unchanged at  $62\frac{1}{2}$  to 64 cents per pound in cartons to retailers. Offerings are liberal in the San Francisco wholesale market, but demand is slow. Although production in the Pacific Coast and Mountain states for the week ended July 14 was 4 percent below the previous week, it was still 26 percent above the same week in 1948.

In the egg market a moderate amount of activity has kept supplies of top quality eggs well sold up. Although production has been on the down-grade, receipts are running well ahead of last year at this time. Prices are up 1-cent on Grade "A" Large and Medium sizes, with Grade "A" Large quoted to retailers at 63 cents per dozen in cartons and Grade "A" Mediums at 60 cents. Grade "A" Smalls are unchanged at 41 cents per dozen.

In the wholesale poultry market, dressed broilers have advanced 1 to 2 cents per pound as the result of an improved demand for lighter supplies. Liberal supplies of all weights of colored fryers and small Leghorn hens have resulted in a price drop of 1-cent per pound on those classes. Ducks, too, are 1-cent per pound lower than last week. And both young hen and tom turkeys have dropped 3 cents per pound on dressed weights, because of gradually increasing supplies.

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30 Van Ness Avenue
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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS? (USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended July 29, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, July 26 --- The week's Best Buys in fruit are Gravenstein apples from Sonoma County and peaches.

Blackberries and cantaloups are Good Buys. And Thompson Seedless grapes are a Fairly Good Buy at lower prices.

Nectarines, Bartlett pears, plums, and watermelons are all Fair Buys.

The season is about over on apricots and cherries.

Among the vegetables, the Best Buys of the week are snap beans, celery, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, and soft squash.

Carrots, cabbage, lettuce, onions, peppers, and potatoes are Good Buys.

Peas are a Fair Buy.

Prices are considerably higher on tomatoes because this is an in-between season.

MORE



There has been little change in the trend of trading in the San Francisco wholesale meat market the past week. Slaughter of beef, calf and lamb continued to increase, while hog slaughter remained light. For the most part, demand has ranged from slow to fair. In the beef division, the dearth of top grades has continued, with prices holding unchanged on Good steer and heifer beef. Commercial grade beef has dropped \$1.00 per hundredweight. A good demand for Good and Choice grades of weal has kept supplies cleaned up, while Commercial and Utility grades have been in little demand and have dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight. Liberal offerings of spring lamb have continued their downward price trend to drop \$2.00 to \$4.00 per hundredweight below last week. Fresh pork carcasses and cuts, as well as cured pork cuts, have all advanced \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight as the result of very light supplies. Lard has dropped \$1.00 per hundredweight.

Butter prices have gained 1/2-cent since last week. Although production continues on the downgrade, supplies are ample for the rather slow demand. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) are quoted to retailers at 66 to 68 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-1b. prints. And Grade B(2nd Quality) is quoted to retailers at 63 to 64\frac{1}{2} cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-1b. prints.

Although demand has been only fair in the egg market during the past week, it has been sufficient to keep supplies pretty well sold up. Top quality large eggs have been in lighter supply but have also been in less demand. Receipts of California eggs are on the decrease but are still well above a year ago. The price of Grade "A" Medium eggs has dropped 1-cent to a quotation of 59 cents per dozen in cartons to retailers. All other grades and sizes are unchanged, with Grade "A" Large quoted to retailers at 63 cents per dozen in cartons, and Grade "A" Smalls at 41 cents per dozen in cartons.

Prices have dropped 1-cent per pound on several classes of dressed poultry in the San Francisco wholesale market. Demand has been only moderate, while offerings of colored chickens and Leghorn hens have been liberal. As a result, colored roasters, colored hens, and all weights of Leghorn hens have dropped 1-cent per pound since last week. Young tom turkeys are also down 1-cent per pound from a week ago. All other classes are unchanged.

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